

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1                   1 (Currently Amended): A method for screening a compound for an ability to  
2 ~~induce~~ modulate apoptosis comprising:

3                   (a) providing a biologically active p53 polypeptide, and a helicase  
4 polypeptide, wherein the helicase is selected from the group consisting of XPB and XPD,  
5 ~~providing a first cell containing a normal or mutant p53 gene, wherein said first~~  
6 ~~cell is capable of undergoing apoptosis after microinjection of a DNA construct expressing wild~~  
7 ~~type p53;~~

8                   (b) contacting a compound suspected of inducing apoptosis with the  
9 polypeptides of step (a)

10                  (c) detecting whether or not the compound is capable of inhibiting binding of the  
11 p53 polypeptide to the helicase, wherein a compound that inhibits the binding of the p53  
12 polypeptide to the helicase is a compound that modulates apoptosis

13                  ~~providing a second cell containing at least one of a mutant XPB gene and a~~  
14 ~~mutant XPD gene, wherein said second cell is less capable than said first cell of undergoing~~  
15 ~~apoptosis after microinjection of a DNA construct expressing wild type 53;~~

16                  (e) ~~contacting each of the first cell and the second cell with the compound;~~

17                  (d) ~~detecting whether or not apoptosis of the first cell occurs;~~

18                  (e) ~~detecting whether or not apoptosis of the second cell occurs; and~~

19                  (f) ~~comparing the detectings of steps (d) and (e), , thereby determining~~

20 ~~whether the compound can induce apoptosis.~~

2-15. (canceled)

1                   16 (New): The method of claim 1, further comprising contacting the  
2 polypeptides with a compound that inhibits binding of p53 to XPB or XPD.

1                   17 (New): The method of claim 16, wherein the compound that inhibits binding  
2 of p53 to XPB or XPD is HBX.

1                   18 (New): The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2                   (d) determining whether the compound suspected of inducing apoptosis can  
3 inhibit helicase activity, wherein a compound that inhibits XPB or XPD helicase activity is a  
4 compound that modulates apoptosis.

1                   19 (New): The method of claim 18, wherein the helicase polypeptide is present  
2 as part of a TFIIH transcription complex.

1                   20 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 polypeptide and the helicase  
2 polypeptide are each introduced into a cell.

1                   21 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein at least one of the p53 polypeptide  
2 or the helicase polypeptide is a native polypeptide.

1                   22 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the p53 polypeptide is a wild-type  
2 p53 polypeptide.

1                   23 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the helicase polypeptide is a mutant  
2 helicase polypeptide.

1                   24 (New): The method of claim 20, wherein the cell is a member selected from  
2 the group consisting of: a fibroblast cell, an epithelial cell, and a hematopoietic cell.